

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: MICHAEL COLLINS ET AL. Docket No.: 00-682

Serial No.: Examiner :

Filed : Art Unit :

For : COMPRESSOR PROTECTION MODULE AND  
SYSTEM AND METHOD INCORPORATING SAME

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit the prior art documents listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed.

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,017,192, Patented January 25, 2000, By Clack et al., for SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING SCREW COMPRESSORS. This reference relates to a compressor controller providing integrated monitoring, control, and alarm capabilities. The compressor controller receives a run signal from a rack controller. Upon receipt of the run signal, the compressor controller monitors startup conditions to determine whether it is safe to start the compressor. If so, the compressor controller applies power to the compressor and determines whether the compressor is running

properly. Once the compressor is running properly, the compressor controller continues to monitor the operation of the compressor. If the compressor controller detects a fault condition during the startup or operation of the compressor, the compressor controller provides an alarm signal and shuts down the compressor if necessary. The compressor controller provides maximum protection for the compressor by monitoring a plurality of relevant conditions and by shutting the compressor down when necessary. The compressor controller also maximizes the compressor's availability by evaluating the monitored conditions to determine whether the compressor can continue to run or be restarted despite a fault condition.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

If any fees are required in connection with this case,  
it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit  
Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL COLLINS ET AL.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
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Date: October 19, 2001

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on October 19, 2001  
Janice T. Staton

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<b>Complete If Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	
		Filing Date	
		First Named Inventor	MICHAEL COLLINS
		Group Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	
		00-682	

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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